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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau and Zerbst

INTELLIGENCE

25X1A

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF COM [REDACTED]

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

PREPARED 11 June 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE [REDACTED]

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25X1C

1. On 6 May 1951, 24 x 100-mm model 120/4 AT guns and 18 tanks, apparently T-34/85s, were loaded at the Dessau freight yard. *

2. On 6 May, there was only little activity in the billeting area of the Pionier Schule, Dessau-Rosslau, and several barracks buildings were virtually dark in the evening hours. Only a few soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery and some with tank insignia were seen in the northern section of the billeting area. A few soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets were seen in the southern section. Sentries on the eastern and northern gates wore red-bordered black epaulets and those at the southern gate black-bordered black epaulets. A convoy of trucks, including [REDACTED], left the barracks installation

25X1C

toward Dessau on 6 May. The trucks, some of which were loaded with pontoon sections, were driven by soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets. Other vehicles observed in barracks traffic were trucks [REDACTED], both driver by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets; and trucks [REDACTED] both driven by soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets. **

3. From 200 to 250 troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets were still observed in the former hospital on Seminar Strasse and in the Soviet kommandantura. The officers of the kommandantura were billeted in the houses, which adjoined the kommandantura in the rear, and the enlisted personnel were quartered in the hospital. The GI were recruits who were engaged exclusively in drill, patrol, and guard duty. ***

4. Tanks were still loaded at the Dessau railroad station for an undetermined destination on 12 May. The tank unit from Zerbst which had departed in early April had not returned, nor had the WA unit from Zerbst which had allegedly moved to Schwerin. *

5. On 14 May, engineer troops constructed a heavy bridge at Nietzbeck with the aid of seven Diesel-powered pile drivers. Shipping on the Elbe River was halted from 9 a.m. to midnight on 15 May. **

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2

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The materiel probably belonged to the 7th Gds Tank Div, elements of which were previously reported to have moved to Letzling Heath. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~. The AAA unit from Zerbst, mentioned in paragraph 4, which probably moved to the Austrow AAA range, is also believed to be a component of this division.

25X1A

** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The observations are connected with the on-line exercise in the Dessau-Alten area. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ belong to the unidentified engineer regiment of the GOFB, headquarters units of the XXVIII Gds Itz Rifle Corps, and the 21st Gds Hecz Div.

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*** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. Previous information on the two installations is available only from the same source. The kommandatura unit was reported by the same source to have had 40 men in November 1950. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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